

**Lake Sylvia and Schafer State Parks CAMP**  
**Stage One**  
**Issues from public workshop**

October 6, 2009

The purpose of stage one is to understand your hopes and concerns related to Lake Sylvia and Schafer State Parks. This helps the planning team get a sense of the range and type of issues it must consider through the planning process. Comments will also be used to determine environmental impacts consistent with State Environmental Policy Act.

These comments are from the public workshop on September 15, 2009. Verbatim comments about each state park are in column one with the names and contact information removed. We have attempted to group issues that are similar. This is difficult and we may have made mistakes. If you see your comment grouped with other comments that do not make sense to you, please contact Brian Hovis. In some cases, a comment is repeated for both parks when that was the intent of the participant.

Additional written comments (E-mail preferred) are welcome. Comments received before October 15, 2008 will be shared with the planning team before its next meeting.

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Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Pay phone - Some of us don't have cell phones or need a "land line" in emergencies.	Lake Sylvia State Park Pay phone
Bonfire Sing-a-longs & Story Telling - Help get people outdoors and into the community. I'm thinking about Monte's great Christmas/Holiday Celebration and how folks turn out for that – so maybe?	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
Community Partnerships - Every high school kid must complete some kind of community service in order to graduate, therefore perhaps the parks could work w/ the local schools to assist and provide opportunities for our kids. I can imagine many kids would love to work in tandem, with their school and the park service to develop and maintain our lovely parks.	Lake Sylvia State Park Community partnerships
Continue fishing derby's for kids, and fishing for all.	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
Maintain current uses, walk, camp, swim, and fish. Also Events, amphitheatre, music in park, teaching on nature, story-telling, demonstration of green practices, cabins, yurts, and hookups, retreats, ropes program	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development Overnight accommodations
More programs - Campfires, storytelling, songs	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
Encourage local schools to have short field trips with a ranger led discussion.	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
Hiking trails, maintain, expand	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
Trail maintenance - Contact IMBA.com on sustainable trail building. International Mountain Biking Association have trail building manual.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
Maintain swimming, picnic area	Lake Sylvia State Park Day-use area

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Replace, fix, upgrade all areas to be user &amp; age friendly, get the youth involved on to adulthood.</li> <li>2. Increase camp sites, RV area, Cabins.</li> <li>3. Large meeting area (covered)</li> <li>4. Numbered interpretive handouts.</li> </ol>	Lake Sylvia State Park Community partnerships Campground changes Meeting hall Interpretation
Use for community education/personal enrichment: nature walks, star gazing programs, nature (wildlife, botany) talks, etc.	Lake Sylvia State Park Meeting hall
A longer covered pavilion for events in bad weather.	Lake Sylvia State Park Meeting hall
A place for community gatherings: music events, storytelling, nature talks. A place for community gatherings: music events, storytelling, nature talks.	Lake Sylvia State Park Meeting hall
Kayak rentals, small boating skills, fishing skills A place to teach boating and fishing skills to the community.	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
Why not have children do a penny drive? They have for hurricane and earthquake victims. Let us get the children involved.	Lake Sylvia State Park Community partnerships
Keep the camp grounds open and improve them. It is so important to have quality camping facilities located within a reasonable distance of metropolitan areas (Seattle/Olympia). This is also good for Grays Harbor and the local economy.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development
Develop more hiking / walking trails - It is important to have hiking and walking trails accessible. It is wonderful to have access to trails. Have a hiking leader that would take people on more formal tours of the park.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations Program development
Outdoor school/educational center –n Build a functional meeting center where community educational programs could be held. School trips, seniors, music	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
I am most concerned about “money” for the parks.	Lake Sylvia State Park Economically sustainable parks
Revenue generation - Cabins or yurts at Sylvia, more utility site and another group camp at Schafer.	Lake Sylvia State Park Economically sustainable parks Campground changes
Open year round	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
Programs at park	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
Must have toilets, children’s playground, and picnic area. A lifeguard in summer if possible.	Lake Sylvia State Park Day-use area
Link websites - Info from the vidette.com to park sites to local chambers	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks Community partnerships
Volunteer recruitment - Sign up on website to get volunteer helpers for each park.	Lake Sylvia State Park Community partnerships
Festivals around Lake Sylvia - Monte: Festival of Lights Parade Sat. Dec. 12. Elma: Outlaw Days (Elma Chamber of Commerce is ALIVE & WELL!	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
I don’t see this as becoming highly developed. It is pretty nice the way it is with campground, large day use area and trails for hiking.	Lake Sylvia State Park Economically sustainable parks
Commercial opportunities - Get local stores, bowling alleys, golf courses, restaurants, etc to participate in some kind of coupon book discount program that campers @ Schafer/Sylvia could realize by camping at our parks.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Signs on dam - Can they be lowered so they do not impact the view across the lake? They deal with the historic dam and powerhouse, valuable information, but they could be positioned below the railings.	Lake Sylvia State Park Signage improvements
What is the future of the dam for operations and maintenance?	Lake Sylvia State Park Future of the dam
Beach Shelter - Turn into Interpretive Center with trail maps and info.	Lake Sylvia State Park Kitchen shelter uses
Advertise - Sylvia has the best mountain biking trails on city land.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development
Historical value - Look into history and historical designation. Women ran power house, buildings	Lake Sylvia State Park Interpretation
Yurts- You get more dollar received per site. Sylvia has few expansion options	Lake Sylvia State Park Campground changes
Increase bicycle usage - Promote bicycle use to increase both road and mountain bike destination style use.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
Connecting trails to city land - Signs and maps to connect with city trails and roads. Will need signs to warn hiker of mountain bikes and mountain bikes to control speed and limit trail damage. i.e. riding off trail, skidding, brakes and trail cutting.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
Don't commercialize - Good stores in Monte and nearby towns.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development
Year -long camping	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Website - The state badly needs to improve the website showing the details of these parks. The current website provides little reason for the public to come and visit.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks Community partnerships
Signage to Lake Sylvia - Improve the signage from the freeway to Lake Sylvia State Park to make it simpler to find. Also, keep parks open through hunting season (Nov. 15)	Lake Sylvia State Park Signage improvement Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
Leech issue while swimming - Lake Sylvia needs cleaned up. Dead trees cleaned up to help prevent leech problem.	Lake Sylvia State Park Lake health
Marketing and development - Gray Harbor 2020 is a group planning development for the area. Parks should coordinate to make the parks part of the development plan for the area. Could lead to more group use.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development
What we enjoy about Lake Sylvia is: "That is so near...and yet so far away" i.e. a very short drive from town, yet it seems miles from civilization. We must keep it and support it thru volunteers, etc.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
Scout camp restoration - Part of historic community involvement with the park could be used for "No child left inside" program.	Lake Sylvia State Park Community partnerships Program development
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repair and institute interpretive trail</li> <li>2. More camp sites, Sylvia.</li> <li>3. Historical info available on site.</li> </ol>	Lake Sylvia State Park Interpretation Campground changes Interpretation
Need operational funds for Washington State Parks so that any given park is not threatened with extinction. Who do we have to influence to guarantee operational funds? What is important to the people who allocate operational funds for the Wash Park system; couch our needs for the park in terms that capture the money (continuous funding).	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kayaks for rent.</li> <li>2. Hook-ups in campground.</li> <li>3. Cabins or yurts.</li> <li>4. Another group camp.</li> <li>5. More campsites developed.</li> <li>6. Removing fallen trees to make room for more camp sites or picnic areas.</li> </ol>	Lake Sylvia State Park Campground changes
School events - Work with school on educating children about nature.	Lake Sylvia State Park Program development
Removing fallen trees to make room for more camp sites or picnic areas.	Lake Sylvia State Park Campground changes
Keep under state, keep both a state park!	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
Need to improve the trail from the dam downstream and back up the other side. There are places on the trail which are slippery and muddy, hard to hike.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
“Winterize” trail – slippery stretches - Restrict bike access to prevent flooded ruts.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
More trails for hiking	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
Condition of Lake Sylvia - It has been over 30 years since the lake has been drained and the silt flushed out. Also numerous trees have recently fallen into the lake. Its time to flush out the silt and remove some of the trees to keep the lake open and usable.	Lake Sylvia State Park Lake health
Need to extend the protected forest downstream- It could provide quieter and lovelier land as the trail goes downstream, across the bridge and back up.	Lake Sylvia State Park Forest protection

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Tree problem for the power lines - Power outages occurred too often during storms along road leading up to the lake.	Lake Sylvia State Park Tree maintenance
Trails at Lake Sylvia - There are lots of trails but I would like to see them improved and marked with distance and direction. Handicap accessible is also helpful. Schafer is wonderful, more camping sites would be great, but maintaining the nice size of the sites.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
Motors - No jet skis on lake, no motor boats	Lake Sylvia State Park Water recreation
Large public shelter with fireplace and/or stove for 50+ people - We need a gathering spot for the community and visitors. This would support educational and recreational events.	Lake Sylvia State Park Meeting hall
Trails - Keep trails open and clean.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations
Growth - Leave Lake Sylvia the way it is! It's peaceful and pleasant. I do not understand the idea that growth is necessary or desirable.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
More camp sites - This area is lacking in camping facilities.	Lake Sylvia State Park Campground changes
Why don't we put solar panels to generate power in both state parks?	Lake Sylvia State Park Alternative energy
Status Quo - Agree that current Lake Sylvia park is fine as it currently exists. Trail maintenance will always be a continuing issue, but I would not want to see significant changes in size or activities from what exists currently.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
Ranger on duty at all times	Lake Sylvia State Park Park operation



Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
I would like to see the dead and fallen trees removed from the lake; as well as the ones that are along the various trails.	Lake Sylvia State Park Trail development and operations Lake health
Please maintain Lake Sylvia's quiet, small space. The park is wonderful just as it is. Change is not always better.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
More campsites	Lake Sylvia State Park Campground changes
Advertising - On PBS we need an add campaign, similar to the LDS did a few years ago.	Lake Sylvia State Park Local economic development
Larger covered picnic shelter for groups at Lake Sylvia.	Lake Sylvia State Park Meeting hall
More fish release in Lake Sylvia	Lake Sylvia State Park Water recreation
Upgrade the boat launch	Lake Sylvia State Park Water recreation
Improve the park entrance so you know you are in a state park	
Use for community education/personal enrichment: nature walks, star gazing programs, nature (wildlife, botany) talks, etc.	Schafer State Park Program development
Develop a boat launch that is more usable.	Schafer State Park Water recreation

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Flood control	Schafer State Park Flood control
Flora and Fauna - There are several unique and threatened species here. There are many people who will come to view these species if better publicized.	Schafer State Park Interpretation
Why not have children do a penny drive? They have for hurricane and earthquake victims. Lets get the children involved.	Schafer State Park Community partnerships
Parks(s) funding = stability I am most concerned about “money” for the parks.	Schafer State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
Annual damage from flooding - For 80+ years the park has had annual flooding with subsequent infrastructure damage. Protective devices in the past were reduced or removed leading to increased damage. Can we get WAF&W cooperation on a better plan?	Schafer State Park Flood control
Get local stores, bowling alleys, golf courses, restaurants, etc to participate in some kind of coupon book discount program that campers @ Schafer/Sylvia could realize by camping at our parks.	Schafer State Park Community partnerships
Cabins or yurts at Sylvia, more utility site and another group camp at Schafer.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Sign up on website to get volunteer helpers for each park.	Schafer State Park Community partnerships
Info from the vidette.com to park sites to local chambers	Schafer State Park Community partnerships
Increase parks size - Look at obtaining property downstream near Decker Creek to allow use and access to park property on NW side of river. Downstream property (Simpson) would be logical for hikers and fishermen.	Schafer State Park More recreational opportunities

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
History - Work with volunteers to document history of park as it was used by Native Americans, logging companies, early fish hatchery, settlers, and early park users. Continue work (cooperative effort) with local museums, State Archives and interviews of remaining old timers. Continue work to obtain old letters photos and documents detailing park history.	Schafer State Park Interpretation National Historic Register
Historical preservation - Schafer has unique value to the public with it's representation of depression era buildings and facilities. Need to get Schafer on the State and National Historical register.	Schafer State Park Interpretation National Historic Register
Play ground area for smaller kids - Large group camp area has space for kiddy style playground area i.e., slide, teeter-totter, tire swing.	Schafer State Park Day-use area
Scheduled events – continue as started at Schafer	Schafer State Park Program development
New bath house for camp side - Existing restroom facility is inadequate and source of camper criticism.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Increase camping sites “camp-side” - Only 42 sites now, used to be 55+. There's plenty of room for 15 – 20 additional sites with proper planning.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Additional group camp areas on picnic side - Existing group camp area is nice and at least 2 – 3 more group camps could be added.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Seasonal flooding prevention - Every fall the E. Fork of the Satsop flows unrestrained thru the park. FEMA money is spent, this last year a large volunteer effort in addition to FEMA put the park back in fair shape. Presently fish and wildlife has an improvement/enhancement permit in a strangle hold. If nothing is done soon (i.e., fish window closes end of Sept, first part of Oct) the park will become a disaster area once more. This is more than a quick fix, it needs to be a permanent fix.	Schafer State Park Flood control

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Need operational funds for Washington State Parks so that any given park is not threatened with extinction. Who do we have to influence to guarantee operational funds? What is important to the people who allocate operational funds for the Wash Park system; crouch our needs for the park in terms that capture the money (continuous funding).	Schafer State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks
Schafer Park flood prevention.	Schafer State Park Flood control
Restrooms, camp ground - Build a shower building near large group camp area for use by all campers. Take showers out of present restroom and make handicap accessible toilet facilities.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Replace small shelter in picnic area - Small shelter near horseshoe pits was moved to group camp. It is now beyond repair, rebuild the shelter in its original position.	Schafer State Park Day-use area
Community use - It is very important to enhance the use of the parks by having events that the community will participate in. Use of the parks throughout the year will increase its importance and value.	Schafer State Park Program development
Marketing and development - Gray Harbor 2020 is a group planning development for the area. Parks should coordinate to make the parks part of the development plan for the area. Could lead to more group use.	Schafer State Park Local economic development Community partnership
Website - The state badly needs to improve the website showing the details of these parks. The current website provides little reason for the public to come and visit.	Schafer State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks Community partnerships
Flood control	Schafer State Park Flood control
Support work of volunteers in obtaining historic designation. Signage – reduce use of signage and convert necessary signs to wood (preferably with traditional yellow vs white.)	Schafer State Park Interpretation National Historic Register

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Historic interpretive display - Schafer State park I agree that it is a good idea to explain the history of the forest ( ex. Why is it mostly Douglas fir?) and the history of the logging. Possibly combine with MMK Historical Fair.	Schafer State Park Interpretation
Expansion of boundaries - I feel expanding the boundaries on a limited basis would enhance access to the river, expand campsite opportunities. However, limiting the expansion is critical to maintaining the pristine and non crowded feeling of the park.	Schafer State Park More recreational opportunities
Group shelters - For both group camp grounds.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Camp group sites - Need to add and improve more group camp sites in picnic side.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
School events - Work with school on educating children about nature.	Schafer State Park Program development
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Campground improve shower size.</li> <li>2. Need children activities area, i.e. climbing wall or logging history playground, steam donkey, skidder, etc.</li> <li>3. River stabilization.</li> <li>4. Group camp shelters.</li> <li>5. Group camp power.</li> <li>6. Enlarge entrance.</li> </ol>	Schafer State Park Campground changes Day-use area Flood control Enlarge entrance
Keep under state, keep both a state park!	Schafer State Park Economically sustainable parks
River flooding - If this is not taken care of soon we will be in the same situation as last spring.	Schafer State Park Flood control
Trails - Keep trails open and clean.	Schafer State Park Trail development and operations

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Bathroom - Needs updated to withstand flooding or prevent damage during flooding.	Schafer State Park Flood control Campground changes
Why don't we put solar panels to generate power in both state parks?	Schafer State Park Alternative energy
Acquire add land south of park or across the river for a horse coral and camp sites around it. There are 20 mile ride on Green Diamond land. The only place now is in Black Hills.	Schafer State Park More recreational opportunities
Ranger on duty at all times	Schafer State Park Park operation
More campsites	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Bathrooms improved	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Restrooms need TLC - Restrooms are neglected, low priority at this park.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Kitchen in group area	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Historical or heritage day - Preserve historical core of park (original 27 acres plus 1953 addition and meadow on north side of river with current safety standards, maintain buildings and grounds to reflect historic use.	Schafer State Park Interpretation National Historic Register
Flooding and subsequent damage - Annual flooding causes infrastructure damage. DF&W needs to cooperate on solution to limit infrastructure damage.	Schafer State Park Flood control
Trails - Longer, more enhanced trails with educational markers, identifying plants, wildlife, et cetera.	Schafer State Park Trail development and operations

Verbatim Comments	Park/Main Issue
Cabins and Yurts – This would increase use year around. Help with park income.	Schafer State Park Campground changes
Maintenance and Improvement of public fishing access on the Satsop River - Schafer is the only public access on the upper Satsop River, and needs to be maintained to preserve this unique and excellent fishery. Flood control is critical to this issue as well. Additionally, the expansion of the park westerly and easterly along the river would do much to improve public access.	Schafer State Park Flood control Salmon Restoration
Advertising - On PBS we need an add campaign, similar to the LDS did a few years ago.	Schafer State Park Local economic development Economically sustainable parks Community partnerships
I like the park the way it is, rather simple and undeveloped. I would not like to see that changed. My main desire would be to have a better trail system for walking and bird watching.	Schafer State Park Trail development and operations
More accessibility to restrooms and trails at Schafer Park.	Schafer State Park Trail development and operations
Interpretive center at Schafer - Enhanced interpretive center with a focus on the history of logging in the area.	Schafer State Park Interpretation
Add ADA trails - We need to enhance ADA trails on west side of river north and south side of county road.	Schafer State Park Trail development and operations